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Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments; human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Rio Group on the subject of international terrorism at their meeting, held on 14 November 2001, on the occasion of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (see annex).

On behalf of the States members of the Rio Group, I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 119 (a), (b) and 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Juan Gabriel **Valdés**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 16 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Rio Group

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Rio Group, meeting at the United Nations Headquarters on the occasion of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, reaffirm their total rejection of international terrorism as was stated in Lima on 11 September 2001, a day of sad memories for the people of the United States of America and for the entire world community.

They reaffirm their strong support for the action taken to combat terrorism, in exercise of the right of self-defence, in the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the resolutions of the Security Council and applicable international instruments, following the appalling attacks on the cities of New York and Washington, D.C.

They emphasize that terrorism violates universal principles and values and is a scourge that does violence to human coexistence and to the right of all people to live in democracy, freedom, justice and peace, principles that are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Charter of the Organization of American States.

They reiterate their undertaking to implement resolutions 1368 (2001), 1373 (2001) and 1377 (2001) of the United Nations Security Council, resolution 56/1 of the General Assembly and resolution RC.23/RES.1/01 of the Twenty-Third Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Organization of American States and resolution RC.24/RES.1/01 of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs acting as organ of consultation in application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty).

They also emphasize the measures taken by the countries of the Rio Group to intensify the exchange of information and to adopt measures designed to prevent and suppress the financing of acts of terrorism.

They draw attention to the work of coordination carried out by the Rio Group through its legal experts in accordance with resolution 1373 (2001) and to the report adopted in Santiago, Chile, at the first meeting of that Group on 6 November 2001. They undertake to give full attention to that report and to maintain a system of ongoing consultations so as to adapt the legislation of our countries for the purpose of effectively combating international terrorism.

Finally, they place on record their resolve that all Governments should display a determination to comply with the resolutions of the bodies of the United Nations system and of the inter-American system.